

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 249A.4, the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 78, "Amount, Duration and Scope of Medical and Remedial Services," Iowa Administrative Code.

This amendment restores Medicaid coverage of periodontal and endodontic dental services, including posts, cores, and crowns, for members 21 years of age or older. This coverage was eliminated in 2002.

Periodontal disease and endodontic disease are infectious diseases that, if left untreated, may result in other health complications. They are the only infectious diseases for which treatment is not covered by Medicaid. In state fiscal year 2008, the Department received 208 requests for exceptions to policy for these services and approved 177 of them (85 percent). Reasons for approval included pregnancy, diabetes, organ transplants, heart disease, lung disease, severe or profound mental retardation, and physical disabilities.

The Department has determined that it is more cost-effective in the long term to treat these infectious diseases and thereby minimize other health complications.

This amendment does not provide for waivers in specified situations. Requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department's general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendment on or before October 1, 2008. Comments should be directed to Mary Ellen Imlau, Bureau of Policy Analysis and Appeals, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by E-mail to policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.

The following amendment is proposed.

Amend subrule 78.4(14) as follows:

78.4(14) *Services to ~~adults~~ members 21 years of age ~~and~~ or older. ~~Effective May 10, 2002, the following dental services~~ Orthodontic procedures are not covered for ~~adults~~ members 21 years of age ~~and~~ or older.*

a. —Crowns, posts, and cores on anterior teeth that have not received endodontic treatment and on posterior teeth.

b. —Periodontal services.

c. —Endodontic services on posterior teeth.

d. —Orthodontic procedures.